

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A method for memory allocation for images, comprising the steps of:

while storing the data describing an image (10) in operating memory (4) dividing the image into lines, each line being described by a separate subset of data;

allocating the image in the operating memory by

determining a size of a largest free block of operating memory,

creating a set of data from subsets of data which have not been allocated in operating memory yet, the set of data comprising a maximum number of subsets of data that can be allocated in the largest free block of operating memory;

allocating the set of data in the largest free block of operating memory until data describing the image is allocated in operating memory; and

~~creating at least one set of data from the subsets of data which have not been allocated in operating memory yet, and allocating each set of data in a separate free segment of operating memory until data describing the whole image (10) is allocated in operating memory, wherein the size of each successive set of data is not larger than the size of the set of data created before it and the size of the largest free segment of the operating memory at the time of creating the set of data; and~~

while reading the image (10), reading consecutive lines from the operating memory (4) until the whole image (10) is read.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein each set of data contains subsets of data describing an integer multiple of lines.

15-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein each line is assigned a number.

19. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein simultaneously with allocating the subsets of data in operating memory (~~+~~), the table of pointers to individual lines is filled.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the table of pointers to individual lines comprises the memory address of each line of the image.

21. (Canceled)